

CLAIM AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims in accordance with the following listing.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of managing time division duplexing, comprising the step of:

synchronizing frames across plural time division multiple access (TDMA) channels between a base station and a plurality of CPEs so that upstream frames and downstream frames coincide across the plural channels.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of assigning one channel to each of plural CPEs, wherein each CPE receives media access protocol messages on its assigned channel.

3. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 2, wherein the base station controller generates the media access protocol messages, and wherein the media access protocol messages instruct the CPEs to switch channels so as to receive data bursts.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 3, wherein the base station controller includes a centralized scheduler that allocates channels and slots in those channels to the CPEs for receipt of the data bursts.

5. (Original) A method of receiving time division duplexed messages, comprising the step of:

switching channels based on received media access protocol messages so as to receive data bursts on plural channels.

6. (Previously Presented) A base station that manages time division duplexing, comprising:
an input/output interface;
a transceiver; and
a controller that synchronizes frames across plural time division multiple access (TDMA) channels between the base station and a plurality of CPEs so that upstream frames and downstream frames coincide across the plural channels.

7. (Previously Presented) A base station as in claim 6, wherein the controller further assigns one channel to each CPE of the plurality of CPEs, wherein said each CPE receives media access protocol messages on its assigned channel.

8. (Previously Presented) A base station as in claim 7, wherein the controller generates the media access protocol messages, and wherein the media access protocol messages instruct said each CPE to switch channels so as to receive data bursts.

9. (Previously Presented) A base station as in claim 8, wherein the controller further comprises a centralized scheduler that allocates channels and slots in those channels to the CPEs for receipt of the data bursts.

10. (Previously Presented) Consumer provided equipment that receives time division duplexed messages transmitted by a base station using time division multiple access, comprising:
a transceiver that can dynamically switch between plural time division multiple access (TDMA) channels between the base station and the consumer provided equipment; and
a controller for controlling the transceiver, wherein based on received media access protocol messages, the consumer provided equipment switches the channels so as to receive data bursts on plural channels.

11. (Previously Presented) A memory storing information including instructions, the instructions executable by a processor to manage time division duplexing, the instructions comprising:
synchronizing frames across plural time division multiple access (TDMA) channels between a base station and a plurality of CPEs so that upstream frames and downstream frames coincide across the plural channels.

12. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 11, wherein the instructions further comprise assigning one channel to each of plural CPEs, wherein each CPE receives media access protocol messages on its assigned channel.

13. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 12, wherein the instruction further comprise generating the media access protocol messages, and wherein the media access protocol messages instruct the CPE to switch channels so as to receive data bursts.

14. (Previously Presented) A memory as in claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise allocating slots in the channels to the CPE for receipt of the data bursts.

15. (Original) A memory storing information including instructions, the instructions executable by a processor to receive time division duplexed messages, the instructions comprising: switching channels based on received media access protocol messages so as to receive data bursts on plural channels.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for managing time division duplexing, comprising: means for synchronizing frames across plural time division multiple access (TDMA) channels between a base station and a plurality of CPEs so that upstream frames and downstream frames coincide across the plural channels; and means for communicating the frames synchronized by the means for synchronizing between the base station and the plurality of CPEs.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for receiving time division duplexed messages, comprising:

means for switching channels based on received media access protocol messages so as to receive data bursts on plural channels; and means for receiving the data bursts.

18. (New) A method as in claim 2, wherein at least one CPE of the plural CPEs receives data on a channel of the plural channels other than the channel assigned to the at least one CPE.

19. (New) A method as in claim 5, further comprising:
receiving a first media access protocol message at a CPE over a first time division multiple access channel, the media access protocol message instructing the CPE to receive a data burst over a second time division multiple access channel, the second channel being different from the first channel; and

receiving the data burst at the CPE over the second time division multiple access channel;
wherein the step of switching comprises switching from the first time division multiple access channel to the second time division multiple access channel in response to the media access protocol message.